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Colby

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(54) **TOWED AIRBORNE ARRAY SYSTEM**

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(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(58) **Field of Search** 244/1 TD, 31, 244/33, 114, 114 R, 115, 116; 114/249, 242; 102/405; 89/1.11

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A towed airborne array system has a balloon that supports appropriate instrumentation packages overhead and is tethered to a towing ship to improve line-of-sight sensing and communication capabilities to up to about 100 nautical miles. These improved capabilities can benefit relatively small surface combatant ships (CG, DD, FFG) and might provide an alternative location for having countermeasures placed on a warship.

4 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

